Mr. Daniel Freeman - Centinella [sic] Springs and Wells March 31, 1891

Department of the Interior, Census Office, Washington D.C. 3-31, 1891.

“SIR : The census enumerator of the district in which you resided in June last reported you as having an artesian well on your farm. The instructions given to the enumerator did not make it his duty to make further inquiries concerning this important subject, it being considered that that could be done more satisfactorily by direct correspondence from this office.

The inquiry relates mainly to the flow of water and the success which has attended its utilization for the purpose of irrigation, and you will confer a favor upon this office by answering the subjoined questions as fully and accurately as you can.

From many-portions of the west urgent requests have been received for information as to the average cost and general utility of artesian wells, and the results of your experience may thus become of public service. If your well has not been successful in reaching good water or obtaining it in paying quantities, please mention these facts, as they may be of equal and even greater importance than the successes of others.

If, after answering the questions, any other important facts should occur to you, please note them on the back of this sheet, which is to be returned in the inclosed envelope, requiring no postage. The information you may furnish will not be used in connection with your name, or in any way that would be detrimental to you.”

1) What is the depth of your well in feet? “Seven wells in group, average depth 20 feet.” What is the size of the pipe in inches? “7 inch”
2) Have you measured the water from your well? “Yes”. If so, how many gallons per minute flow from it? “520 Gallons”
3) How was this measurement made, or, in other words, how accurate do you consider it? “Measurement was made by a Civil Engineer and is very near correct.”
4) Has any of this water been used for irrigation? “Yes”. If so, how many acres have been watered in any one season” “about 250 acres”
5) What crops have been raised by the water from your well, and about how many acres each? “150 acres Citrus Fruits, 60 acres deciduous fruits and 40 acres of nurserias (sp?), vegetables, etc. (over)

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“This was originally natural artesian springs and flow has been largely increased by sinking the wells. The water from the several wells is collected in a basin and conducted through a wooden flume to a reservoir, from which a a portion is pumped to a higher reservoir to supply, under pressure, the town of Inglewood and the balance taken through a 15 inch iron pipe to the orchards almost half a mile away.